



# California Redistricting Basics

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# What is Redistricting?

**Drawing (and redrawing) the boundaries that determine which voters are represented by each electoral district.**



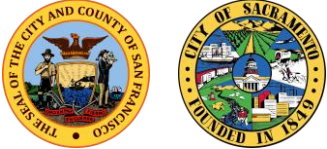
# Different Redistricting Efforts



**State**—Congressional, Board of Equalization, Senate and Assembly.



**Counties**—58 counties with their own process.



**Cities**—482 cities with their own process.

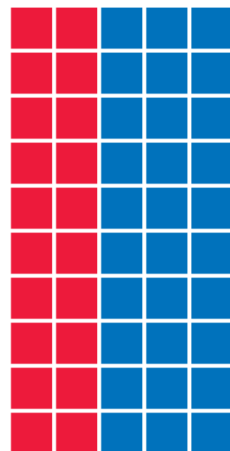


**School Districts**—977 school districts with their own process.

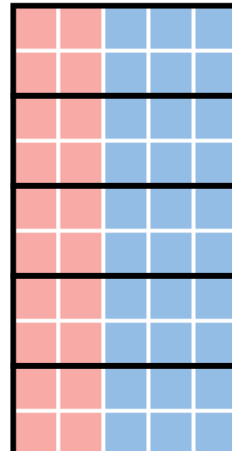


# Why Independent Redistricting Matters

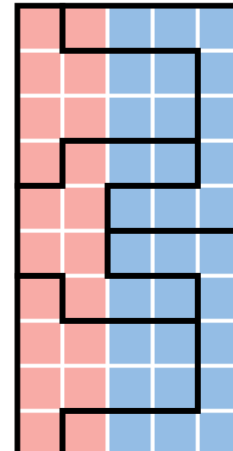
- ▶ In 2012, Pennsylvania Democrats received 51% of the votes for congress but won only 5 of its 18 seats.
- ▶ In 2016, Maryland Republicans received 37% of the votes for congress but won only 1 of its 8 congressional seats.
- ▶ In California's five election cycles from 2002 to 2010, only one California congressional seat changed parties, and only two incumbents lost in all 253 races.



50 PRECINCTS  
60% BLUE  
40% RED



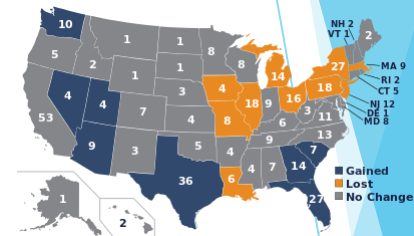
5 DISTRICTS  
5 BLUE  
0 RED  
BLUE WINS



5 DISTRICTS  
3 RED  
2 BLUE  
RED WINS

# Redistricting Factors

- ▶ **Census**—Every ten years the entire U.S. population is counted, and that data is used to draw new maps to account for population shifts across the states and districts.
- ▶ **Reapportionment** –The federal reallocation of House seats among the states, done after each national census to ensure seats are held by the states in proportion to the size of their population.
- ▶ **Fair Representation**—Historically, legislators have drawn maps that allowed them to choose their voters rather than enabling voters to choose their representatives. This former system undermined the concept of fair representation.



# Why We Redraw District Maps



- ▶ People are born, die, and move.
- ▶ Communities grow and shrink.
- ▶ Areas where there were once roughly the same number of people become lopsided.
- ▶ Communities change.



# History

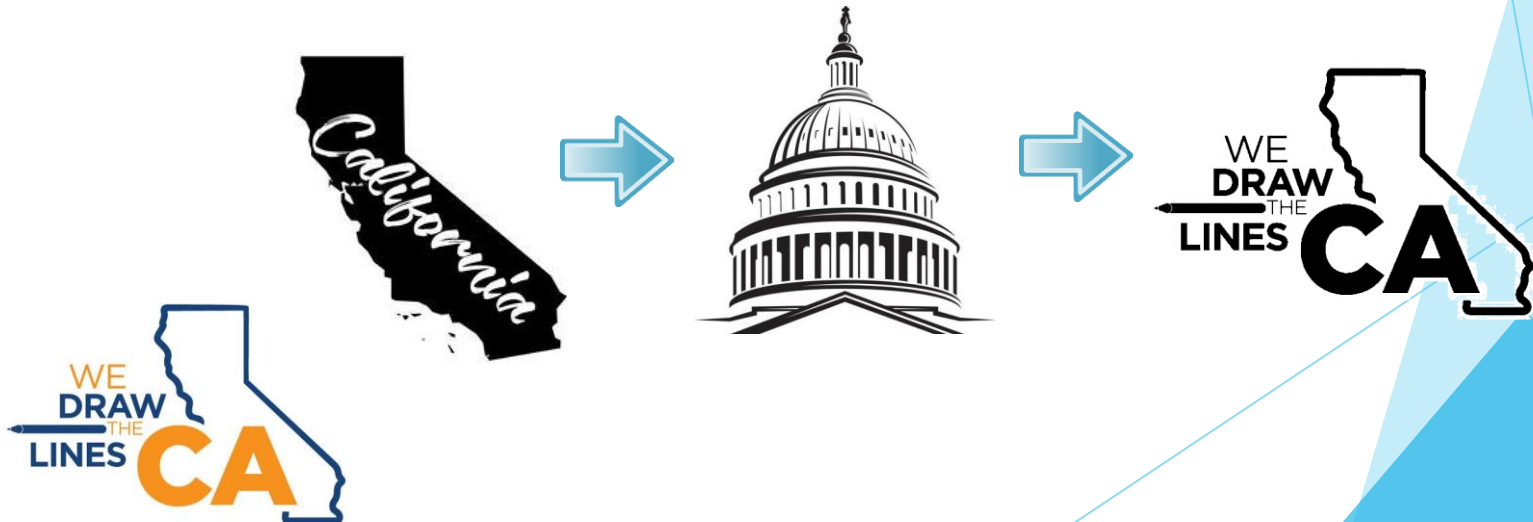
- ▶ **Prior to 2010**—Legislators Drew Lines or the Court did if the Legislature failed to carry out this duty properly
- ▶ **Proposition 11 (2008)**—the Voters FIRST Act/We Draw the Lines
- ▶ **Proposition 20 (2010)**—Congressional Districts
- ▶ **From Census to Redistricting**
- ▶ **2010 Redistricting Commission**
- ▶ **2020 Redistricting Commission**
- ▶ **Other States with Independent Commissions**—Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana and Washington use independent commissions to draw the lines.





# Commissioner Selection

- ▶ **Commissioner Applications (Over 20,000 applicants)**
- ▶ **Completed Applications (2,000)**
- ▶ **Interview/Screening Process (120 applicants)**
- ▶ **Legislative Strikes (12 strikes each party)**
- ▶ **Lottery System: First 8**
- ▶ **Final 6 Selection**





# Who we are

## ► 2020 Commissioners: 14 Members

•Isra Ahmad, San Jose, No Party Preference	•Sara Sadhwani, La Cañada Flintridge, Democrat
•Linda Akutagawa, Huntington Beach, No Party Preference	•Patricia Sinay, Encinitas, Democrat
•Jane Andersen, Berkeley, Republican	•Derric Taylor, Los Angeles, Republican
•Alicia Fernández, Clarksburg, Republican	•Pedro Toledo, Petaluma, No Party Preference
•Neal Fornaciari, Tracy, Republican	•Trena Turner, Stockton, Democrat
•J. Ray Kennedy, Morongo Valley, Democrat	•Angela Vázquez, Los Angeles, Democrat
•Antonio Le Mons, Studio City, No Party Preference	•Russell Yee, Oakland, Republican



# Commissioner Duties

- ▶ **Community Outreach/Public Input Meetings**
- ▶ **Drawing Maps**--draft and final maps for Congress (~53), Board of Equalization (4), Senate (40) and Assembly (80)

## EXAMPLE: SACRAMENTO

### BOE

(9 million people)



### CONGRESS

(700,000 people)



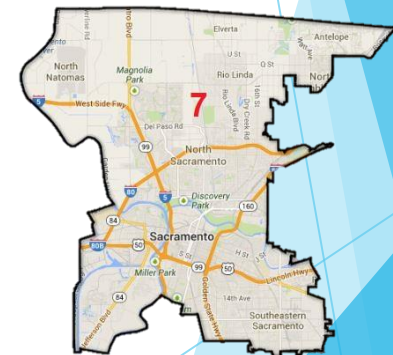
### SENATE

(931,000 people)

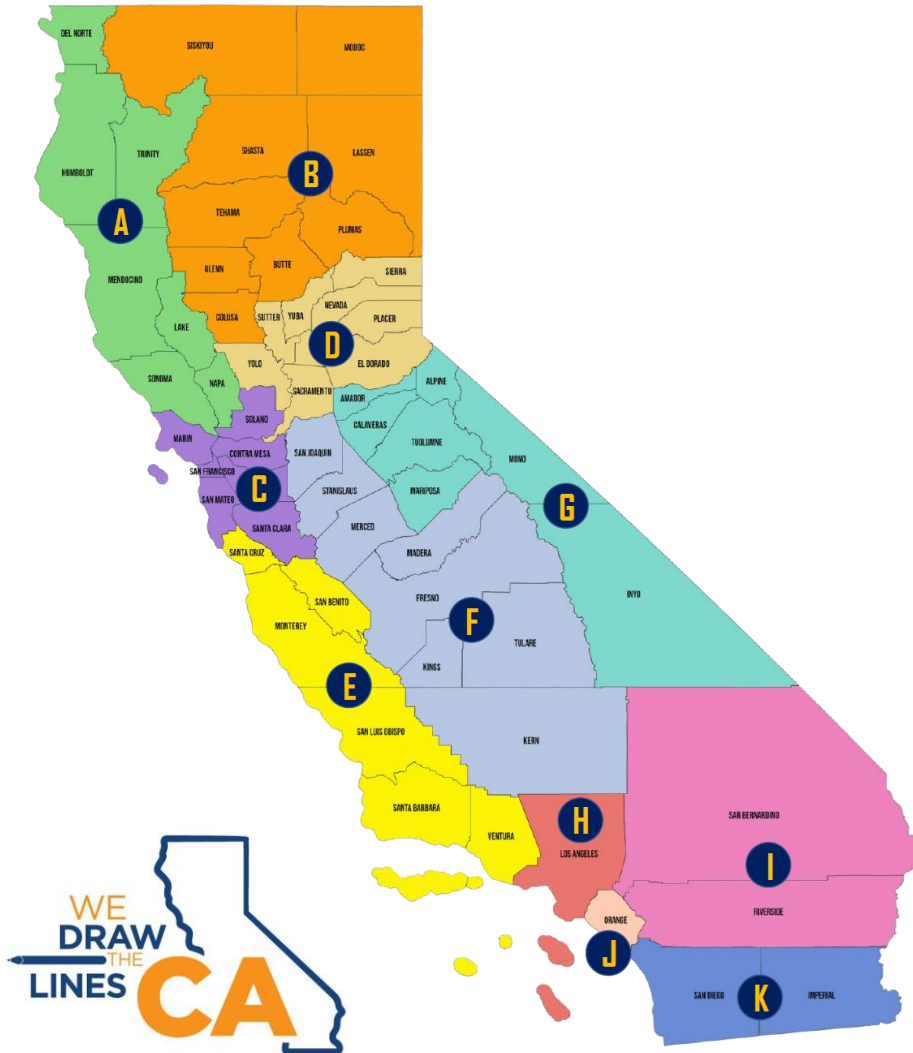


### ASSEMBLY

(466,000 people)



# Outreach Zones



ZONE	COUNTIES	COMMISSIONERS
A	Del Norte, Humboldt County, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma, Trinity	Commissioner Toledo Commissioner Taylor
B	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama	Commissioner Sinay Commissioner Yee
C	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano	Commissioner Yee Commissioner Toledo
D	El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba	Commissioner Fernandez Commissioner LeMons
E	Monterey, San Benito, San Luis, Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura	Commissioner Fornaciari Commissioner Kennedy
F	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare	Commissioner Turner Commissioner Vazquez
G	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, Tuolumne	Commissioner Andersen Commissioner Akutagawa
H	Los Angeles	Commissioner Taylor Commissioner Ahmad
I	Riverside, San Bernardino	Commissioner Kennedy Commissioner LeMons
J	Orange	Commissioner Akutagawa Commissioner Sadhwani
K	Imperial, San Diego	Commissioner Sinay Commissioner Ahmad

# 6 Line Drawing Criteria

The Commission must follow these criteria when drawing district maps:

1. **Equal population**
2. **Comply with the Voting Rights Act**
3. **Contiguous districts**
4. **Respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest**
5. **Geographically compact**
6. **Nesting districts**





## 6 Things to Consider When Drawing the Lines

2020 CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

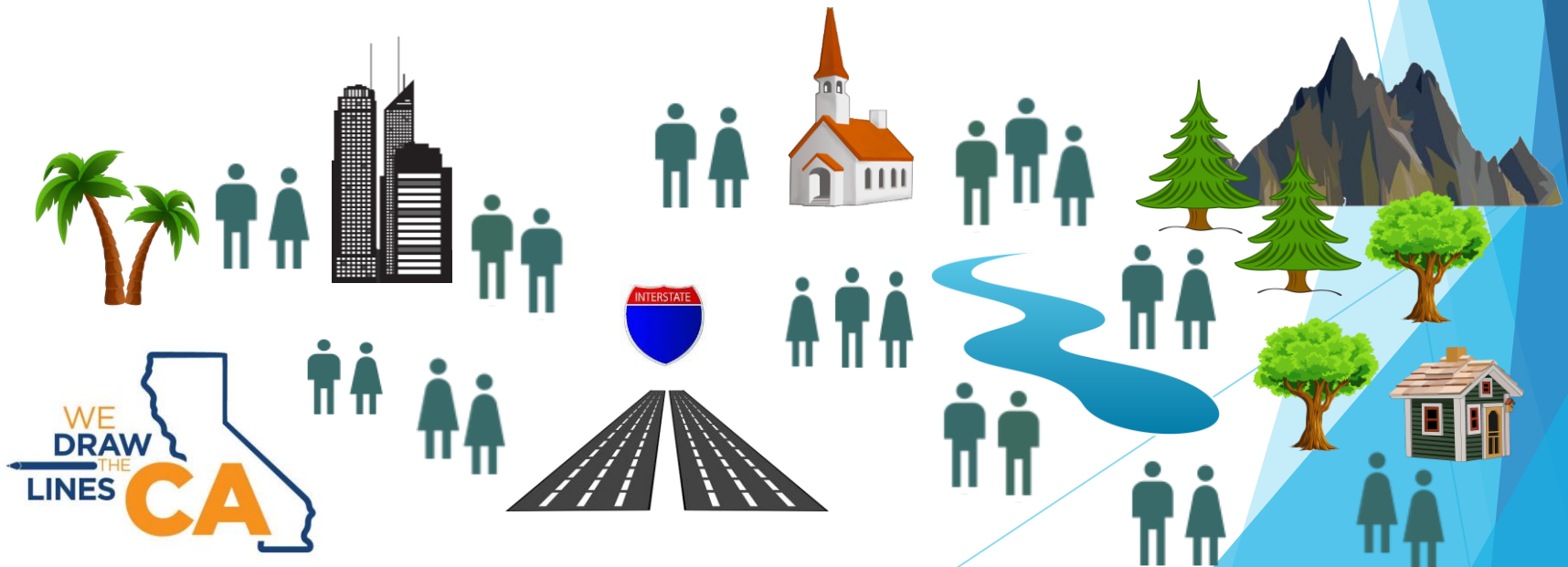
 <b>Equal Population</b>	 <b>Voting Rights Act</b>
<p>1. Districts must be of equal population to comply with the US Constitution.</p>	<p>2. Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.</p>
 <b>Contiguity</b>	 <b>Communities of Interest</b>
<p>3. Districts must be contiguous so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.</p>	<p>4. Districts must respect the boundaries of cities, counties, neighborhoods and communities of interest, and minimize their division, to the extent possible.</p>
 <b>Geographically Compact</b>	 <b>Nesting Districts</b>
<p>5. Districts should be geographically compact, that is, have a fairly regular shape.</p>	<p>6. Where practicable each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts and Board of Equalization districts shall be composed of 10 complete and adjacent State Senate Districts.</p>



For more information about the California Citizen Redistricting Commission, visit us at [wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://wedrawthelines.ca.gov)

# Communities of Interest (COI)

- ▶ **Communities of Interest (COI)**--A community of interest is a contiguous population which shares common social and/or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Examples include areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media.
- ▶ **How do you define your community?**
  - Geographic
  - Boundaries
  - Landmarks



# Your Voice

- ▶ Why is it important?
- ▶ Why should you be involved?
- ▶ Your role in the process

Redistricting has been used at times to exclude communities from political power. By fully participating in and monitoring the upcoming redistricting process, historically underrepresented communities will have a better opportunity to elect candidates of their choice and voice their needs and interests.



*Your Voice  
Your Choice*



# Participating in the Process

- ▶ Familiarize Yourself with Criteria
- ▶ Organize Your Community
- ▶ Clarify Your Goals
- ▶ Testify at Hearings and/or submit your comments to the Commission
- ▶ Advocate for Your Community



**DEFINE YOUR COMMUNITY OR  
SOMEONE ELSE WILL!**






# Draw My Community Tool / COI Tool

- ▶ Communities of Interest (COI) Mapping Tool
- ▶ Submit Your COI Directly to the Commission

Draw My CA Community  Languages 


## My Community

1. Describe your community 

Give your community a name\*  
Required

Tell us about your community. What are your shared interests? What brings you together? What is important to your community?\*  
Required

3. Submit your community



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# Timeline

- ▶ **February-March:** Education Meetings
- ▶ **March-June:** Public Input Meetings (COI)
- ▶ **June:** Line Drawing Sessions (Pre maps)
- ▶ **June:** Draft Maps Released
- ▶ **July-August:** Public Input Meetings (COI)/Line Drawing Sessions
- ▶ **August 15:** Final Maps to Secretary of State\*

\*May change due to census data delays.



# Contact Us

To request an informational session, please contact the Commission.

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For more information about the Commission, please visit:  
**[Wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://Wedrawthelines.ca.gov)**



**@WeDrawtheLinesCA**

